

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3146

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, PO

SUBJ: PRAVDA CHARGES EEC VIOLATES CSCE ON PROTUGAL

REF: MOSCOW 10029

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1. SUMMARY. PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON PORTUGAL BY LISBON CORRESPONDENT SEDYKH (AUGUST 8) CHARGES THAT THE EC NINE'S POSTPONEMENT OF A DECISION ON ECONOMIC AID TO PORTUGAL CONSTITUTES INTERFERENCE IN PORTUGAL'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND A VIOLATION OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT. END SUMMARY.

2. SEDYKH SAYS LISBON HAS COMPLEX ECONOMIC PROBLEMS--HE PREDICTABLY BLAMES THEM WHOLLY ON THE OLD REGIME AND THE "SABOTAGE OF BIG CAPITAL"--WHICH DEMAND URGENT SOLUTION"NOT EXCLUDING THE USE OF SOME FOREIGN RESERVES." IN THIS CONTEXT LISBON WATCHED THE EC NINE'S CONSIDERATION OF AID TO PORTUGAL WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION. HOWEVE, IN THE END THE EEC DELAYED ITS DECISION TO THE FALL, MEANING, SEDYKH SAYS, THAT THE NINE MAY TAKE A POSITIVE DECISION ONLY IF "EVENTS IN PORTUGAL DEVELOP IN A DIRECTION PLEASING TO THE CAPITALIST WEST."

3. SEDYKH SAYS THE EEC'S WTTEMPTS TO FORCE "CONDITIONS" ON AN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC STATE, "IN OTHER WORDS TO INTERFERE DIRECTLY IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE PORTUGUESE," WAS GREETED WITH SURPRISE IN LISBON. HOWEVER, CITING A GROWING "ANTI-PORTUGAL CAMPAIGN" IN THE WEST, A RECENT CALL BY THE GERMAN CDU TO SUSPEND AID TO PORTUGAL, AND AN ALLEGED UK DECISION TO LIMIT PORTUGUESE IMPORTS, SEDYKH CHARGES THAT THESE ATTEMPTS TO "PRESSURE" LISBON SHOW AGAIN THAT "BIG CAPITAL" WANTS TO STOP THE PROGRESSIVE PROCESS IN PORTUGAL. IN THIS CONNECTION, SEDYKH CONCLUDES, IT IS ASKED IN LISBON WHETHER THE TIME HAS NOT COME "TO MOVE TOWARD FULFILLING THE PLEDGES REGARDING THE NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PEOPLES WHICH WERE GIVEN BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WESTERN POWERS AT HELSINKI AND TO STOP EFFORTS TO INTERFERE IN THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO AN INDEPENDENT DETERMINATION OF THEIR OWN FUTURE?"

4. COMMENT. AGAINST BACGROUND OF PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN PORTUGAL, SEDYKH COMMENTARY IS A REMARKABLE TORTURED EFFORT TO MAKE CASE THAT THE WESTERN POWERS ARE IN FACT VIOLATING CSCE UNDERTAKINGS BY WITHHOLDING AID FROM LISBON. COMMENTARY SCRUPULOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AVOIDS ANY REFERENCE--A LA IZVESTIYA'S COMMENTARY, JULY 15 (REFTEL)--TO POSSIBLE "SOCIALIST" AID FOR PORTUGAL, BUT IT APPEARS TO LAY DOWN AN ARGUMENT PERHAPS DESIGNED TO JUSTIFY SOVIET ASSISTANCE IF THE TIME COMES.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**To:** STATE  
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